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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Berlin Agreement opens up a new era in Europe



Not even the best-intentioned journalists could have sounded a more pessimistic note. The British ambassador talked in terms of a new era and noted that there had been something special about certain aspects of the negotiations. Britain's Foreign Secretary termed the signing an historic event, a view shared by the American ambassador, who also stressed the prospect of further steps towards the establishment of normal relations.

The Soviet ambassador spoke of a milestone in European history. He too saw 'favourable' prospects for the future. His French opposite number talked in unusual terms of the positive spirit of cooperation which had been particularly encouraging.

These are telling words from diplomats when one bears in mind that their every assurance is first vetted and approved by their governments. What they have to say is more than mere verbiage.

The Berlin Agreement does indeed mark the beginning of a comprehensive

political situation in the whole of Eastern and Western Europe has been characterized by the dangerously explosive state of affairs in the heart of the Continent.

On the strength of this situation the two sides armed to the teeth after the War. Each sought to force the other at least on to the defensive yet at the same time each was afraid of the other.

This fundamental position exercised a decisive influence on security policy in both East and West, at the same time bringing influence to bear on the whole gamut of foreign, economic and financial policy.

It would, of course, be too easy now to believe that these facts of life in both East and West are going to change overnight, as it were.

Yet there are many indications that a process has now been set in motion that will, so to speak, uncouple the existing crisis-prone dovetailing and denture-gritting commitments of the European powers in and around Berlin and Germany.

Oddly enough this process has come in for criticism in both East and West. The Opposition in this country feels there to be a 'genuine danger' that the United States will feel emboldened to pull out of Europe after the Berlin Agreement and be still further encouraged to do so following ratification of Bonn's treaties with Moscow and Warsaw.

The latest developments will be grist to the mill of the increasing American tendency to withdraw from international commitments, the Opposition reckons.

IN THIS ISSUE

The first six pages of this issue of THE GERMAN TRIBUNE have been devoted to the Berlin Agreement, signed by ambassadors of the four powers on 3 September 1971

HEALTH
The disabled children learn to live with their handicap page 8

ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Cologne agency provides cash and know-how for industry in Third World page 10

SPORT
Power-assisted gliders gain ascendancy in the air page 15

Probably irreversible change on the European map world scene.
It may be a matter of a complex tangle of agreements of the kind that used to be made in a poor light and would until recently have been called a 'crisis' compromise.

Undoubtedly it is a quite abnormal affair that has been 'normalised' but this very fact is what is new and unparalleled about this historic

The Berlin Agreement has inaugurated a new mechanism of its own that will, in the long run, render the illogical and obsolete.

And the round of negotiations between representatives of the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic will be complicated, time-consuming and



French ambassador in Bonn, Jean Sauvagnargues, American Minister David Klein and Sir Roger Jackling, British ambassador in Bonn, delivered the official German language version of the Berlin Agreement to West Berlin mayor, Klaus Schütz on 3 September. Mayor Schütz expressed his thanks to the ambassadors for their tireless efforts in negotiating the agreement. (Photo: AP)

In the final analysis, the argument runs, this current policy trend is heading in the direction of a reduction in German and European security.

The Soviet Union is supposed to have signed the Berlin Agreement in anticipation of this development and to consider the terms to represent a long-term procedural improvement in its position. There is an element of truth in this line of argument. As a result of the Berlin Agreement and further developments in Europe Washington may well loosen its genuine ties with Europe.

In consequence Bonn will have to be all the more energetic in its endeavours to

extend and perfect the process of Western European integration.

This albeit should prove considerably easier, once the Berlin and German questions have been reasonably settled.

Western scepticism as to likely developments is accompanied by a similar feeling of mistrust in East Berlin. In Eastern Europe too the omnipotence of the foremost power is bound to slacken, though Moscow will not be slackening the reins of its own free will.

The Kremlin's satellites will now be less convinced by the argument that the alleged imperialist enemy in Bonn (and West Berlin) calls for the strictest socialist solidarity.

The uncoupling of the German Question will trigger off a political mechanism in Eastern Europe too and the West can but hope that developments in the East do not one day reach explosive proportions.

Serious internal disruption in the socialist world could well lead to grave setbacks in the process of détente, as past experience has shown. The future is assuredly fraught with danger.

Over the next six months Germans in the Federal Republic will be required to demonstrate for the last time (as things stand) their rational common sense and political sense of proportion.

There may well be something of a hangover, though. Young people may not worry much about accepting for good and all what has so far only emotionally been felt inevitable. But they have an easy time of it.

Even twenty-five-year-olds have known the Berlin Wall all their lives. They know from personal experience nothing other than the existence of two German states, Silesia as part of Poland, Königsberg as part of the Soviet Union, Budweis as somewhere in Czech Bohemia.

Slettin, Stolp and Stralsund are just names on the map for thirty-year-olds. Berlin is to remain divided, not to mention Germany, which includes neither

The Four-Power agreement is a milestone in European affairs

Those who hasten to dub the conclusion of a political development amid great pomp and circumstance as a major historical event or are forced to do so are acting perhaps with excessive haste. For it often happens that what once seemed a great turning point in history proves in the long run to be a mere episode.

The fact that the signing of the umbrella agreement on Berlin by the ambassadors of the Four Powers was more than a visible seal on an unusual but perhaps worthless piece of diplomatic toil cannot and will not be denied by those who reject the agreement in toto and consider the agreements reached in the tough negotiations 'considerable concessions' to the Soviet Union.

Undoubtedly there has been since the signing and sealing of the treaty a new situation in and around Berlin, however difficult the second stage of the negotiations between the two German States may be.

And the round of negotiations between representatives of the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic will be complicated, time-consuming and

Judging from previous experiences with GDR negotiators – not without a number of surprising pieces of subterfuge, chicanery and bluff.

But the treaty signed by the victorious powers under the blaze of the floodlamps and in front of the whirling cameras permits no turning back. This is something that East Berlin and the Opposition in Bonn will just have to get used to.

For the first time since 1949 there is a binding, written agreement on Berlin, which not only guarantees the people in the divided city more security but also expressly and unambiguously confirms the political, legal and economic links between West Berlin and the Federal Republic which the Soviet Union has continually contested.

To this extent at least the hands that were shaken among the four ambassadors are a guarantee of a safe future for the city that has been so sorely tried since the War.

In connection with this there can be no denying that Willy Brandt, who admits

Continued on page 3

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 September 1977)
(Photos: Sven Simon, J. H. Darchinger)

The German Tribune

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Continued on page 6

BERLIN AGREEMENT

The Berlin Agreement paves the way for further East-West accords detente efforts

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

In Berlin the three Western powers and the Soviet Union did not only agree on the future of the divided city; something more happened. They removed the bolt from a door which was previously shut, preventing further East-West negotiations. The creation of a link between a satisfactory settlement of the Berlin problem and ratification of the treaties with Poland and Russia was a decision taken by the Bonn government alone, which, like any government is able to Reserve for itself the right to set its own priorities on the foreign policy agenda.

But it was a truly significant aspect of Bonn policies that more than a dozen other Western countries recognised that the new Ostpolitik was one of the Federal Republic's priorities in foreign policy, including the superpower America, so that in the past eighteen months the Kremlin has been facing a chorus of voices, making it quite clear that without a satisfactory solution of the Berlin muddle there would be no other negotiations aimed at detente.

The West formally made a settlement on Berlin a priority for the calling of a European Security Conference; but the planned discussions for a balanced reduction of troop strength in Europe were also made dependent on a Berlin agreement.

This solidarity of the Western powers has undoubtedly, as the results of the negotiations among the four ambassadors in Berlin showed, paid off handsomely.

If the Berlin treaty is signed, sealed and delivered by the end of the year then there will be nothing standing in the way of a European Security Conference for which the Soviet Union has been striving for a long time. But preparations will, come what may, be complicated and

time-consuming however favourable other considerations are.

Since the first mention of the Security Conference at the Bucharest meeting of the Warsaw Pact countries in July 1966 Moscow has repeated the call with as much stubbornness as vagueness.

A renunciation of force and intensifying of bilateral trade, as far as possible skirting round the EEC, as well as cultural exchanges are named by the East as possible topics of conversation at such a conference.

When the West stated that it was not particularly interested in the suggestion the Kremlin came back with the reply that other topics such as for instance a limitation of armaments could also be discussed.

Originally the Russians wanted to stick strictly to what was implied by the term European Security Conference, excluding all non-European States.

This all-too obvious attempt to rob the Nato countries of their powerful leader, the United States and their other transatlantic partner, Canada, was doomed to failure from the outset.

If the Security Conference is not to degenerate into a vague and unbinding palaver but provide concrete results, diplomatic experts must get their heads together at one or more preparatory conferences to clear the way for the main talks.

Statesmen who have a good understanding of the way the Soviet mind ticks believe they have noticed recently signs that the Kremlin's interest in a Security Conference has begun to wane.

As the relationship with the East Bloc member Rumania has grown worse of late it is possible that the Kremlin fears that a conference of this scope would give

contumacious Ceausescu too much room for manoeuvre in which to undermine his independence, not to mention the other troublesome member of the fraternity, Yugoslavia. If one of the East Bloc satellites were to prove refractory at a

major international conference it would be highly embarrassing for the Russians.

Thus the plans for a European Security Conference remain a vague hope for the future despite the success scored in Berlin.

But we can expect definite steps to be made in the direction of troop withdrawal negotiations. Nato has already worked out a timetable for this at the June meeting in Lisbon. It is possible that before September is out a conference will be held in Brussels at which acting foreign ministers or State secretaries will get

together in order to work out a common attitude of Nato members in discussions with the East Bloc.

This negotiating position will then be put forward to the foreign ministers at the December Nato meeting for their definitive approval.

The next step after the decisions taken in Lisbon is the nomination of one or

SED leaders have no cause to complain

Detail is the very devil, the saying goes, and hackneyed phrases are not always wrong. The negotiators of the two German states will definitely have some difficulty in filling in the blanks of the Four-Power agreement on Berlin.

On the other hand it will not be quite as difficult as official circumspection and the impious hopes of opponents of the Berlin Agreement may make it out to be.

The Socialist Unity Party (SED) of the GDR is continuously stressing how satisfied it is with the outcome of the negotiations jointly worked out by Moscow and East Berlin.

SED leader Erich Honecker and his associates may not be entirely happy but they can hardly criticise the work of their Soviet allies with particular obduracy.

And as the ambassadors have settled a

more junior negotiators for the second round talks with the Warsaw Pact States. It is possible that the former Secretary-General Manlio Brosio, who left his post this summer, will be given the task. He or whoever is given the job will first have to work out in conference with the West Bloc a suitable procedure for negotiations.

Not until then could the disarmament talks begin. And the ahead would still be long and difficult. The West is striving for "balanced" reduction, which would take into account the different geographical location of the countries with America separated by Europe by an ocean. The whole process could spread out over several years.

The impenetrable veil of secrecy has been drawn over the Salt talks. Only speculation about how they are affected by the Berlin settlement.

But Berlin has provided a basis for an answer can be found to the question affecting not only the Salt talks but also the whole future development of East-West relations. Would the Soviet Union react to the news that President Nixon intended to visit Peking?

Harder line in dealings with the West would have been easy for the Russians to take a hard line on Berlin and they did not.

Fritz von Gierke
Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 September 1971

Frankfurter Rundschau

great many details the German negotiators on both sides is fairly limited.

For domestic reasons the SED does not, for that matter, stand for prolonging the negotiations for length of time. GDR propaganda will in any case have difficulty in answering a number of questions posed by the media of the public satisfaction.

It is not succumbing to illusion, to presume that the GDR will not object to allow Berlin to vanish from the headlines as soon as possible.

Frankfurter Rundschau, 31 August 1971

how America is preparing for this conference with an air of resignation.

Is the end of this security conference greeted likewise with a shrug and glasses and happy optimism even though no one in Washington has the slightest doubt that its aim will be to obtain the political sanctioning of the division of Germany and the shifting of the political balance in Europe in favour of the Soviet Union?

If anyone can see any other end but capitulation in easy instalments then the artists at this comparative exhibition are the pictures painted by sick people at the psychiatric clinics, the exhibition pictures of the Central Statistics Office, strategic notes from the Ministry of Defence, sketches of the scene of the crime contributed by the Institute for Forensic Medicine, reconstructions of accidents, euphemistically touched-up newspaper posters, a Viennese football team manager's soccer choreographies, megalomaniac drawings, architectural designs, counterfeited banknotes, balance sheets and quick sketches with which many artists paid their bill at the Vienna

Among the contributors to this exhibition a really heterogeneous bunch, are the Austrian Railways, the Federal Polytechnic Institute, the mime artist Marcel Marceau, the Institute for Medical Hypnosis, the film director Federico Fellini, a lieutenant colonel in the

As Berlin has shown us there are many tides that cannot be turned and much that has been done cannot be undone. But much of the damage can still be repaired within finite bounds if German politicians make Americans constantly aware of common interests.

Above all the search for a substitute for diminishing American power will be a successful if the very need for it is hushed up.

If they do not want to simply surrender Western Europeans will develop the will to stand up for themselves and will be over at least part of the burden that has become too heavy for the United States.

Dieter Cygan
Die Welt, 31 August 1971

ROUND THE GALLERIES

Frankfurt graphic art exhibition stresses reality and spontaneity

The artist in his dependence on reality jumbles his way around with his stick charcoal and his brushes and respects a step back behind authentic purposeful recording of facts.

With the uneasy conscience of the artist who has been caught out he takes up till now he has diverted himself by diverted and modestly takes a position in the shadow of the afternoon sketcher.

Not by way of a change, he lets himself be diverted and modestly takes a position in the shadow of the afternoon sketcher.

Proof positive of this has been provided, although not entirely intentionally, by an educational exhibition.

It is called *Zeichnen heute* (drawing today) and was compiled by Alfred Hrdlicko, one of the best Neo-Mannerist artists and sculptors in Austria, for the Vienna Festival.

It was the only unpretentious contribution relevant to the present day at a powerful social gathering and is now on show in West Germany. It will be of

DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

Frankfurt's Kunstverein until 26 September.

Although no voluntarily, gaolbird Heinz Karner from Vienna was the inspiration behind this exhibition.

At the last Biennale in Venice the repeated question cropped up again: Can people today still draw? At about the same time escaped convict Karner sent the Vienna Kronen-Zeitung a sketch of the hiding-place in which he had concealed the pistol used during his attempted break.

The artist Alfred Hrdlicko was highly fascinated by this drawing. The main interest of the public at the Frankfurt exhibition was far less turned to the artistic works.

Even if the observer knows nothing about the handwriting of painters and sculptors such as Alexander Calder, Jorge, Castillo, Ernst Fuchs, Roland Goeschl, Rudolf Hausner, Rudolf Hoffner, Bernhard Jäger, Giacomo Manzù, Josef Mikl, Henry Moore, Arnulf Rainer, Kumi Sugai, Andreas Urtell and Fritz Wotruba they are all of far less value from the point of view of fascinating the audiences when compared with a sketch as part of an action or as the design for a situation which rouses the most primitive curiosity.

More interesting than the works of the artists at this comparative exhibition are the pictures painted by sick people at the psychiatric clinics, the exhibition pictures of the Central Statistics Office, strategic notes from the Ministry of Defence, sketches of the scene of the crime contributed by the Institute for Forensic Medicine, reconstructions of accidents, euphemistically touched-up newspaper posters, a Viennese football team manager's soccer choreographies, megalomaniac drawings, architectural designs, counterfeited banknotes, balance sheets and quick sketches with which many artists paid their bill at the Vienna

According to Friedrich W. Heckmann's notes in the programme to the current Frank Stella exhibition in this country, in both cases every arrangement of elements becomes "identical with appearance of the whole, so that the transmutation of this into a consequent pictorial concept not only achieves a completely new solution of the combination, but also makes the group reference of the individual pictorial form visible to the preceding and following concept."

In this way the pictures become manifestations of what is symbolically possible. They signify nothing more than this. They do not point the way to anything other than this. They are not related to anything definite, nor to anything real — they simply maintain their own reality.

intelligence service, painter Max Rafter, the Austrian patents office, the stage designer Sanjust, and the Vienna Planetarium.

It is not necessary to protract this list any further. The point has been made that this exhibition has shown that drawing now as ever has an important function in many aspects of everyday life as a direct form of communication, notation and planning.

At this level of communication there is consequently no difference with regard to effect between an artist and a non-artist.

It could even be said that at this level the artist is grateful to accept any inspiration that is offered by the layman.

Thus the artists responsible for this exhibition failed to achieve any aesthetic appraisal. Simply and solely the functional character of graphic art was what was decisive for them.

How near the artist is to reality and how realistic his procedure is should be read from the comparison with the lay exponents.

Content is far more important than artistic handwriting for comparison, for no graphic artist is prepared to go without the capital which raises him above the level of the dilettante and also makes him lose the directness which is common to the dilettantes: the capital of the visibly formulated insight into the power of the line which is suggestive of form.

This is highly rated in the words of Ruskin and Kandinsky and in the battery of key-phrases by the art-historian Dr Walter Koschatzky in the catalogue to this exhibition.

His contribution emphasises the continuing distancing from reality, something which artists are not keen to have emphasised during an exhibition of this nature, needless to say.

Koschatzky wrote the fatal sentence: "If the artist's hand is spontaneous in the



Othmar Zechyr's pen and ink drawing *Zugkatasrophe*

(Photo: Kalslag)

act of creation without any decisive rational pause for thought and without any inhibiting technical problems to crop up between what the artist wants and what he is capable of.

This is tantamount to saying that the artist who amiably stoops to realism may be forgiven if he misses the target! He is after all an artist and it is his duty to steer clear of reality.

According to Dr Koschatzky he need not fear that his work will be subjected to rational analysis.

The artistic drawing as a portrait of an artist's soul takes a back seat at this exhibition, trembling somewhat in the face of the hard precise lines with which engineers map out technical products, the first rudiments of a power station, a complex of buildings, aeroplanes and ships.

The artist's works look timid against the "compulsive" lines of the rational patient. It seems vague when compared with the Utopian power of architectural visions and is divorced from life when compared with the reconstruction of an accident. It seems prudish when compared with the brash obscenities engraved on the lavatory wall.

The painter Adolf Frohnar took a candid camera and photographed graffiti

Ernst Günter Engelhardt

(Deutsche Zeitung, 3 September 1971)

Frank Stella's minimal art show tours West Germany

For his sketches at least Frank (Philip)

Stella uses exclusively standardised, two-dimensional elements of linear structure. Stella, who was born in 1936 in Massachusetts and has been in New York since 1958, takes a pair, or more often than not two or three pairs, and arranges them in random, interchangeable wholes. Or he places them in symmetrical relationship to one another.

According to Friedrich W. Heckmann's notes in the programme to the current Frank Stella exhibition in this country, in both cases every arrangement of elements becomes "identical with appearance of the whole, so that the transmutation of this into a consequent pictorial concept not only achieves a completely new solution of the combination, but also makes the group reference of the individual pictorial form visible to the preceding and following concept."

In this way the pictures become manifestations of what is symbolically possible. They signify nothing more than this. They do not point the way to anything other than this. They are not related to anything definite, nor to anything real — they simply maintain their own reality.



For the observer they are freely available as mere objects.

This does not apply to Stella's sketches completed between 1967 and 1970 and which are now being shown in their entirety at Hamburg's Kunsthalle and which will be moving on to at least seven other cities in the Federal Republic.

It applies also to his works using other painting media, namely the 46 lithographs and the solitary silk-screen print, which were also executed between 1967 and 1970.

Stella is mostly concerned with their objective character. They are correspondingly devoid of secrets. They look correspondingly "simple". They could scarcely be simpler.

Thus they could scarcely be less compelling. The discretion of these pictures makes it inevitable that any reaction to them is a one-sided reaction. It does not interest Stella.

What the observer does with these

pictures that are put at his disposal, what he makes of them, is his own affair. Everything that he thinks and feels is assimilated. But there is no challenge to think or feel anything. Questions are permitted. But answers should not be expected.

The richness of these pictures is in their poverty. Their value as a challenge is in their surrender. Their finite bounds consist of their rational infinity. In fact no style was ever so finite as Minimal Art. (Stella's works are included in this group. Their predecessor, Josef Albers, still included psychological and physiological phenomena of perception in his constellations and structures).

Just where Minimal Art is leading to is demonstrated rather decisively by the Hamburg exhibition. Demonstrative in one way is the manner in which the conditions of the exhibition are made to fit what is exhibited.

How, for example, the 47 works deny the world around them, deny the existence of the galleries in which they hang.

The architectonic way in which they are placed together, their serial principle, is neither here nor there. Stella never puts his graphic art together in any other way. His works are always series (although in differing combinations) of similarly shaped elements. These pictures and galleries want to be left alone. So let's leave them alone.

Jürgen Schmidt
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 September 1971)

Can Berlin survive?

Continued from page 5

forced the Western powers to be involved with the city.

If a government has emerged in Bonn that has no use for pan-German involvement, at least in the sense that has been accepted to date, and therefore has no conventional interest in Berlin as to date, then the basis for the West's interest in the divided city is swept away.

Berlin has been a burden to the Western powers for a long time. They bore this burden mainly because of their worries about political stability in West Germany.

When a Bonn government took over that promised them a certain degree of stability even if they lighted the Berlin burden, or to put it even more on the line, when the possibility of a serious conflict with this Bonn government arose if the Western powers did not throw some ballast overboard there was a lot in favour of the West taking advantage of the offer.

This moment is marked in America with an air of general tiredness with the rest of the world, a wave of neo-isolationism among our major allies who are attempting to ditch as many of their foreign responsibilities as possible.

It is difficult for a world power to cut back its defence spending while that of the other major world power is increasing

and that power is defending its outposts stubbornly.

If it is true that Senator Mike Mansfield was bound to win the day sooner or later with his demands that there should be a reduction of American troop strength in Europe the question then arises, where does the second line of defence in Europe lie?

And if the American economic situation is so critical that the American President must announce an economic policy of protectionist measures then there is a marked likelihood that other political burdens will be offloaded on to other shoulders.

President Nixon has understood the basic tendencies in the United States for some time and has tried to predict the political consequences. He presumably hoped at the outset that he could limit his problems to Asia.

But he must have thought of the side-effects in Europe. When he gave the impetus for the Berlin negotiations in February 1969 with his speech at the Siemens factory he could scarcely have hoped that the Soviet Union would confirm the Western interpretation of the role of Berlin.

There has always been a difference of opinion among Americans about the extent to which conditions in Germany might change. There is no lack of hints that Richard Nixon and his advisers have

begun to find Willy Brandt's policies, including his attitude to Berlin, suspect.

But as the crisis in America became more acute there must also have been a growing tendency to make the best of a bad job.

For many people in Washington who are in favour of partial disengagement from Europe or consider this unavoidable a Bonn government that backs up these ideas must seem like a godsend.

It is understandable that the United States does not want too much emphasis laid on this aspect of the Berlin package, even at the price of strengthening opponents in Germany and crippling friends.

If the process of disengagement is to be carried out with as little risk as possible it is essential that it be carried out as unobtrusively as possible.

It is a sign of the refinements of Russian politics in the postwar years that they are prepared to accept these Western methods.

But whether the German and the American interest in glossing over the matter tally, that is the question — a question that is naturally directed at the Opposition in Bonn.

Where is the limit of withdrawals to be drawn if a spade is not going to be called a spade? We have already seen that the Soviet Union has made a more powerful call for its cherished European Security Conference hardly before the ink on the Berlin settlement is dry. And we can see

Where do the physically handicapped live? As far away as possible, segregated from the non-handicapped. That's much more convenient," a 24-year-old girl, herself a cripple, wrote in a letter to this paper.

She has succeeded in life. She passed her school-leaving examinations and her driving-test. She is now in her second year at Marburg University studying German and history.

But she has gone through everything that the results of a survey only suggest. About ninety per cent of the population do not know how to behave towards a person who is physically handicapped.

Sixty-three per cent believe that physically handicapped children are better off in a home. More than half the people interviewed would not like to live under the same roof as a person who was physically handicapped.

One person interviewed said, "We don't want to bring Hitler into it but he made a clean sweep of these homes and gave everyone a merciful injection... This perverted idea of euthanasia is taken one step further, where the mentally handicapped are concerned: 'They have even less from life.'"

These statistics and statements were obtained during a representative survey conducted by *Infatess* at the instigation



of a Cologne research group dealing with physically handicapped children.

A normal person is shaken from his mental balance on seeing a handicapped person. Lie detector experiments show that epidermal resistance increases, indicating a feeling of revulsion.

This reaction can also be observed in people who have almost daily contact with the physically handicapped such as teachers and doctors at schools for the physically handicapped and those researchers working on the Cologne project.

Since the survey the researchers have advanced a considerable way towards finding possibilities of communication between the handicapped and the non-handicapped.

The findings of the survey are confirmed by those reactions of the vegetative nervous system that can be accurately measured. As this eversion obviously cannot be controlled by willpower general appeals are of no use. Pleas for sympathy and the call to be friendly to handicapped fellow-humans will prove fruitless. The thalidomide tragedy, the long trial at Alsdorf and television broadcasts on behalf of *Aktion Sorgenkind* have brought publicity and money for artificial limbs, homes and workshops but they have aroused little interest in the human problems of the handicapped.

"We are the best television models so we must also be the best for the *Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger*," a boy told us at the second Thalidomide Congress in Cologne's Sporthalle. This twelve-year-old's statement sounded self-confident but cynical too.

A really pretty girl sighed, "It's always the same story. I've either got to laugh or look sad. I no longer want any part of it all."

Weeks later the two children found that the non-handicapped preferred to avoid them. West German tourists on the Italian Adriatic objected to them being in the same hotel.

The wish to be spared, seeing a handicapped person is thought by the Cologne researchers to be a sign not of animosity but of insecurity.

The head of the research group, psychologist Gard Hansen, states, "One is completely helpless when confronted by a helpless person."

HEALTH

Thalidomide children learn to live with their handicap

Every year some 100,000 handicapped children are born in the Federal Republic. Public interest is focused on the effects of thalidomide and the children born to mothers who had used this sedative. How are these children managing with their deformity? Has their terrible fate helped to improve relations between the handicapped and the non-handicapped? A Cologne research group has investigated how these children overcome their disabilities to live relatively happy lives.

At present he sees only one chance of understanding between the handicapped and the non-handicapped — the handicapped person must seize the initiative and make it clear to his non-handicapped colleague what he expects of him. Hansen states, "The handicapped person must not be an object of pity."

What a handicapped person needs to draw his fellow-humans from their reserve can only be outlined here. Flair, intuition, and understanding of people, perseverance and a high degree of self-confidence above all are required.

An important factor in conquering one's own disability... The difficulties arising from this and the way to get over them have only really been seen since thalidomide children have been observed. A large number of children of about the same age and with essentially the same disabilities are nearly all taken care of together.

The first problem for the thalidomide children was the question of what they could and could not do. "At first they thought most of all of what they could not do," psychologist Franz O. Esser of the Cologne research team reports.

"This problem was soon surmounted," he adds, "by showing the children what they could do. Today, the children are able to make a realistic assessment of their capabilities."

One example from the thalidomide class in Cologne will suffice to illustrate this point. During one lesson a little boy expressed his wish to become a vet.

His teacher and fellow-pupils then discussed the physical exertions that this profession demands. The ten-year-old, affected in all four limbs, said at the end of the debate, "I realise that I will not be able to make it. Instead I shall be a vet for small animals."

Drawings can illustrate this development even better. Two years ago, after two years of intensive care, the children were asked for the first time to draw themselves.

A girl who was completely armless pictured herself at the age of six with arms spread wide. Two years later she drew herself as she really was — armless and with her hands growing from her shoulders. Her laughing face has not changed.

At the age of seven a boy with shortened arms drew his self-portrait with overlarge arms and a large number of fingers. When he was nine he drew himself with normally developed arms and legs. He also drew a speech bubble in which he wrote, "This is not me, this is how I want to be."

Two other examples show how plainly and unemotionally the children see their disability and that of their classmates. One boy on handing his drawing to the teacher said, "I won't need to write my name on this, I'm the only person in the class with three fingers on each hand."

A girl with legs of different length (not that this was very noticeable) emphasized the deformity in her drawing by exaggerating the difference. A classmate corrected her work: She had made the wrong leg too long.

Referring to the pictures, psychologist Esser stated, "First of all the children see themselves as they would like to be. When they drew themselves, they also

drew in their missing limbs, exaggerating their size for the very reason that they are missing."

The second problem facing the children was their position in society. All of them have seen how people turn away from them in shame, observe them curiously or awkwardly express their sympathy.

One twelve-year-old had to endure the insolence of adults. An elderly couple blocked his way at a bus stop. The man bluntly asked him why his mother had taken thalidomide. When the boy remained silent, the wife took her husband aside and said, "Leave him alone, he'll soon be receiving compensation from the manufacturers."

Discussions following an incident of this type are usually generalised and included in the larger framework of the social position of all minorities.

Eight-to-ten-year-old could not usually be expected to be interested in this type of problem. Franz Esser states, "Their own experiences and the chance to discuss them have helped them to gain early understanding of the subject."

The children have made a number of suggestions to help improve their situation — even for the time they spend at school.

The third problem facing handicapped

children is the most difficult to brook — their position within the family. A family with a handicapped child is a handicapped family. It was once the subject of a conference years ago. This statement lost none of its weight.

There is the shock for the mother at the birth, her feelings of guilt can develop into a death-wish, the child has to spend long time in hospital, undergo a number of operations and be nursed far beyond infancy.

The mother of the handicapped must nearly always come to terms with these facts on her own and in the realisation that overcoming a disability is not a process that will one day be completed. New problems constantly arise as the child grows up.

A woman, whose son was born with shortened arms and is practically blind, explained how she had got over these difficult stages: "I always told myself that the main thing was for the child to be mentally normal. Everything else is no consequence."

The ability of the mother to withdraw the physical and mental strain is reflected in the behaviour of this child. Ina Lohmar, head of the Cologne School for Handicapped Children for almost 20 years, says, "The child's attitudes depend on the way its parents got over it."

It is difficult to judge what role father plays in a family with a handicapped child. One of the researchers admitted that they knew nothing about the subject. He was however witness of forceful actions of some fathers' parent associations.

None of the researchers doubt that group therapy would help parents by one of them admitted that psychologists would probably be too slow to embark on such a project. "It would be too explosive," he said.

Marianne Quack
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 August 1971)

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MEDICINE

Micro-surgery and nerve transplantation dominate Karlsruhe neurology congress

Operational microscopes with ten to twenty fold magnification today permit surgeons to carry out operations on nerve centres that would have been thought impossible a few years ago.

Doctors at the 23rd Therapy Week in Karlsruhe reported that the finest individual nerve centres only a fraction of a millimetre thick could now be separated and surgically reactivated.

Actively safe operation on the spinal cord or the trigeminal nerve can block some almost intolerable states of pain far more effectively than brain surgery.

Even the smallest tumours in the central nervous system can be removed with the help of operational microscopes with such a degree of accuracy that there is little danger of renewed tumour growth.

Dr Lorenz of Giessen and Dr Samil told the congress that extraordinary progress had been made in nerve transplants with the aid of modern micro-surgery.

In the transplants a skin nerve of minor importance is usually used to replace a more important nerve that has been damaged. It is particularly important to free the transplanted nerve of the fine surrounding tissue that could harm nerve tissue after the transplant.

Surgeons are subjected to a strict regime of self-discipline when carrying out these micro-technical operations, it was reported at the Karlsruhe congress.

Even the slightest twitch of a hand could compromise the success of an operation. Coffee, alcohol and even strenuous manual work is absolutely

But the successes are astonishing. Eighteen years after an injury causing a complete lack of feeling over large areas

of the head a patient was cured with the help of a nerve transplant.

It still remains questionable however whether similar successes will result from the use of nerves conserved from patients who have recently died.

Blood vessel surgery is no more difficult than neurosurgery today. Replacing constricted arteries in the heart and brain as well as the periphery of the body with artificial blood vessels or less important ones taken from another part of the patient's body is no more than a matter of routine under present-day conditions.

Professor Widmer, the head of the neurological ward in Basle University Hospital, and other Swiss doctors told the congress participants how circulatory difficulties in the brain could be treated with similar surgical measures.

The most recent tour de force in brain surgery is the work of these specialists. With a number of circulatory disorders of the brain they reroute the temporal artery from its normal course near the surface by the temples into the depths of the brain to bring more blood to those areas of the brain threatened by a lack of oxygen.

Professor Hirschmann of Tübingen and other prominent doctors stated that circulatory disorders of the brain could be the cause of sudden blackouts or strokes that are not always easy to distinguish from epileptic fits.

This type of stroke is nearly always linked with a sudden drop in blood pressure and can be set off by circulatory disorders, irregularities on the periphery of the heart as well as by mental factors and physical strain.

The classic example is the strong,

muscular slaughterman who fainted when he once cut himself by accident and saw his own blood.

But other incidents too can lead to a sudden loss of consciousness. Doctors at Karlsruhe reported that it was often sufficient to apply slight pressure to the carotid sinus nerve centre in the neck to cause a sudden drop in blood pressure and a fainting fit.

This nerve centre is found at the exact point where the carotid artery divides into two branches. In many people a turn of the head which is almost unavoidable when reversing a car for instance is enough to cause a loss of consciousness.

Other causes similar to this are bending the neck while shaving, wearing a shirt with too tight a collar or an embrace which is only meant to be tender.

Thyroids or the psyche?

These strokes, which usually pass almost as quickly as they come, must be distinguished from similar unconscious states that can be caused by complaints of the tiny glands next to the thyroid, by purely psychological factors similar to hysteria or by narcolepsia where the patient expresses a sudden and irresistible urge to sleep.

Dr Ross of Tübingen said that the most effective way to treat narcolepsia was by using pep-pills and similar drugs. There is no need to fear addiction in these cases, he added. A patient suffering from narcolepsia obviously lacks the substances to keep awake. The drugs he is then prescribed only balances a biochemical deficit.

Christoph Wolff

(Die Welt, 1 September 1971)

Pep pills cannot offset strain of modern living

A lack of physical training and movement, caused by the status symbol of the motor car and resulting in an increase of circulatory complaints has become an integral part of our life along with noise, pollution, other irritations, alienation, isolation and conflicts in professional life and within a family.

This is the context in which to see the much-criticised though little fought belief in the power of pills, the compulsion to take medications of all types and the idea that medical skill and highly effective drugs will prove a lasting guard against the results of an irrational style of living.

Seen in this light, the pharmaceutical industry is to a certain extent right when it claims that it is not its desire for profits that creates the demand which it then satisfies but the patient himself, his environment and society in its present state that continue to make at least a section of this demand increase.

The whizz-kids of modern advertising who are also active in this branch are not over-eager to counter this development and stop pharmaceuticals from becoming an insurance against the results of overexhaustion. They cannot be blamed for this but the fact must be admitted more frankly than is normally the case.

Here we can see the contradiction

between the realisation of modern medicine that sociological factors also play a role in sickness and the indifference of society towards taking logical steps from this, even with the aid of decisive and consistent measures by the State.

At the opening of the Medicaments Fair the president of the Therapy Congress Professor Hans-Erhard Bock of Tübingen confirmed that consumption and not action was people's chief attitude where health was concerned today.

The situation was paradoxical, he said. Despite improved hygiene at home and at a person's place of work, despite more effective pharmaceutical products and their unlimited supply, despite good nourishment and an increase in leisure time the number of people applying for and receiving pensions before the official retiring age for reasons of disability or sickness was rising, more and more periods of convalescence were demanded and trifling complaints were built up into hospital cases.

Admittedly, the pharmaceutical industry does not deserve a halo. Irrespective of its splendid achievements since the War there is still due cause for complaint though this involves distribution more than production.

These problems cannot be approached very well without taking account of their link with the illogical and contradictory ideas of society about the doctor's relation to his patients, about sickness, the environment and drugs. More than one whipping-boy has to be sought. The Therapy Congress at Karlsruhe should have given ample evidence of that.

Karlheinz Ebert

(Frankfurter Zeitung, 31 August 1971)

Doctors have scant success in treating compulsive drinkers

If alcoholism is classified as a sickness then medicine registers its lowest success rate in this sphere. Seventy-seven per cent of the alcoholics who undergo medical treatment later return to their old ways. It was stated at the Therapy Week in Karlsruhe that 1.4 million registered alcoholics live in the Federal Republic.

Dr Lecher of the Psychosomatic Clinic at Kitzbühel said in Karlsruhe that the low success rate in the treatment of alcoholics was due less to the help offered them than to the methods employed.

On the one hand doctors learn little about alcoholism during their university studies and sometimes their interest in treating alcoholics is minimal.

On the other hand the alcoholic often has no contact with the doctor and is not prepared to agree to unconditional surrender in the consulting room.

Alcoholics Anonymous, an organisation set up here on the American model, states that there are 1.4 million known alcoholics in the Federal Republic. Fifty per cent of them are women.

But when the secret drinkers are included Dr Lecher estimates the total number of alcoholics to be somewhere between three and five million.

Many of these are diagnosed by doctors or in hospital as cases of physical and mental exhaustion, coronary or circulatory neurosis or stomach and intestinal catarrh. Alcoholics are always intent on covering up their addiction as long as possible.

Although the Federal Social Court in Kassel ruled in 1968 that alcoholism is a disease and that sickness insurance firms had to cover the costs of treatment, opinion in medical circles still varies.

To illustrate this, Dr Lecher quoted from an article written by a doctor for the news sheet published by the Association of Private Sickness Insurance Schemes.

The writer denies that alcoholism is a disease, adding, "When a person deliberately drinks — he'll always find a reason for it in retrospect — he is not sick but unstable... I think it absurd to reward alcoholism by paying the costs of the treatment and allowing the drinker pocket money for the time he spends in hospital."

Lecher on the other hand views alcoholism as a sickness that begins even before the patient begins to drink. In the beginning there is a complicated false pattern of behaviour learnt or adopted when a child. This only manifests itself when the person becomes adult and is confronted with the conflicts of everyday life.

Illogically, he tries to lessen the conflict, free himself from it or achieve what seems to be a proper solution. The chances of living a life based on the realities of the situation become more and more minimal.

"There then comes the day," Lecher says, "When the person tries to abandon his unsummoned conflicts with the aid of alcohol. Drinking for consolation gradually becomes an addiction. The person can no longer live without alcohol and this brings new conflicts which he again tries to drink away."

Lecher believes that an alcoholic can be freed from this vicious circle with the help of an organisation like Alcoholics Anonymous in which sick people help other sick people, meet in groups and discuss their problems in the hope that this will end the process of self-destruction through alcohol.

Walther Schallies

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 September 1971)

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Cologne agency provides cash and know-how for industry in Third World

No other West German holding company has such a wide range of activities as the Cologne-based Society for Economic Cooperation and Development, DEG for short.

Its activities include producing natural fertilisers in the Ivory Coast, synthetic materials in the Cameroons, sugar in Kenya, cotton products in Somalia, cables in Argentina, machine tools and plastics manufacturing equipment in Brazil, tiles in Thailand, meters for measuring alternating current in South Korea and underwear in Israel.

In Argentina the company organises plantations of medicinal herbs for the pharmaceutical industry and it helps to bring foreign exchange to Kenya with tourist hotels.

This is only a sample from the list of work carried out by DEG in 1970. Last year, in fact, this country's investments in developing nations dropped from 1,194 million Marks to 828 million but DEG's aid pledges the highest level since the company was formed in 1962.

In 24 new aid undertakings contributions towards the financing of development programmes worth a total of 48 million Marks were contractually concluded.

This aid takes the form of six completely new projects and eighteen investments for the expansion of projects already under way in thirteen countries.

What is decisive is the snowball effect of this aid. The investments that the DEG will be helping to finance are worth in all 235 million Marks, a ratio of 4.9:1. In other words, the original investment by this country has increased almost fivefold in value.

The Cologne consultants are not striving to achieve a position of power but simply wish to create an initiative for getting these development projects under way.

In the figure for total investments in the projects in which DEG had assisted financing up to the end of 1970 the proportion of DEG funds was 1:5.6.

The ability of developing countries to finance their own projects has declined steeply in the past few years. More important than public development aid from industrialised nations for the nations of the Third World is the development of their own productivity, so that in international trading they are not forced to rely largely or solely on the export of raw materials which are subject to great price fluctuations.

On the basis of the figures for 1969 it has been calculated that a ten-per-cent increase in exports from underdeveloped countries would bring them more foreign exchange than a fifty-per-cent increase in national development aid programmes by the industrial nations.

Interest is not centred entirely on productivity to bring in more foreign exchange via exports, such as Third World countries' manufacturing from their own raw materials, but also on the production of goods that have had to be imported up till now, so that foreign exchange might be saved.

Most of DEG's promises of aid at the end of 1970, eighty-five out of a total of 104, concentrated on the production side, with heavy machinery and vehicle building in the forefront, followed by the leather, textiles and clothing industries and electronics and mechanics.

In ten cases DEG has agreed to assist banks expressly for the purpose of development work and finance houses for the same purpose. Seven offers of aid are concerned with expanding tourism.



Geographically speaking the most important area of DEG activity in 1970 was Africa. Of the new contracts it has accepted 55 per cent are in countries with a negro population, 21 per cent are in Asia, nineteen per cent in Latin America and only five per cent in Europe.

The DEG has a large interest in three development companies in East Africa, in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Via these partial companies indirect financing of ninety projects has been possible to date.

In Europe the company's activities are to be extended from the present Greece, Portugal and Spain to Yugoslavia. In addition founding a subsidiary company of a Rumanian consulting firm is being considered. The subsidiary would be based in the Federal Republic.

In order to spread limited capital over as large an area as possible DEG has made a virtue of necessity and contents itself with giving smallish sums to as many projects as feasible to give them a start.

The basic idea of the DEG is not to found foreign subsidiaries in which it has a 100-per-cent share but joint ventures which are permeated with the idea of partnership, not only in the origins of their capital, but also in the basis of their management. The resultant respect of the interests of both sides serves to defuse possible political risks.

Of the manufacturing companies in which the DEG has an interest two thirds have already come through the lean early

days. Half of these (one third of the total) are profit-making and are paying out dividends of between three and twelve per cent.

As always the companies are glad to be making a profit and paying a dividend, but in the case of these development companies it can mean the parting of the ways. When the companies have proved that they are viable without the participation of DEG the DEG pulls out. Any money they make from the ventures can then be ploughed back into other development aid schemes. This year will see the start of this turn-round.

With this idealistic basic concept DEG is never going to pay out handsome dividends to its sole shareholder, the Federal Republic. On the contrary, as the scope of DEG's work increases its basic capital has to be boosted by the State.

Last year the balance sheet total was up from 143 million to 240 million Marks and the product of profit-making companies is ploughed back fully in the form of depreciation and value adjustments applied to depreciation either by deduction from the value of assets or by entry on the liabilities side of the balance sheet.

This time in addition there was a further five million Marks from the issue premium. The company is forced to take precautions against the risks involved since its interests are in no way insured against either political or economic risks.

The economic events of the past few weeks have shown just how important it is for the interests of a national economy to be spread out as far as possible over the world, with plenty of pillars for support.

Director of Bonn's development aid workers refutes charges of political involvement

Frankfurter Rundschau: In the light of the Camillo Affair how would you define the basic duties of a development aid volunteer?

Von Weizsäcker: We insist that our workers are "voluntary helpers". They put their services at our disposal for a limited time so that by means of their physical powers, learning, working talents and competence they can train people in another country. It is to a relatively high degree a service run by experts.

Frankfurter Rundschau: A humanitarian service?

Von Weizsäcker: The expression "humanitarian" is widely used, but it certainly describes what I mean.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What is your opinion of the definition of the Minister for Economic Cooperation, Erhard Eppler, of the development aid volunteer as "a peaceful revolutionary, who by practical means and non-violence achieves political and social progress; he shares the sadness and the shame of those who are deprived of human rights, but not their hatred"?

Von Weizsäcker: My description would not have applied the term "revolutionary". This is not how I see it. Without the reference to "revolutionary" the definition used by Minister Eppler is very good. I cannot share the view that Eppler has made the development aid programme a political affair. I often work with young people and I have noted that they often have a strong desire to change the world, which is to a certain extent a revolutionary urge. If young people are to be taken on as volunteers they must be given

Opposition politicians and newspapers in the Federal Republic have seized on the recall of four development aid volunteers from Brazil after they printed in their journal an article by a local revolutionary named "Camillo" as an opportunity for accusing the German Development Aid Organisation (DED) and its roughly 1,000 volunteers, at present working in 26 countries, of being to a certain extent political. In an interview with Bonn correspondent Hans Lorchbacher the Chairman of the DED administrative council, Professor Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker, answers questions about the activities of development aid workers.

a channel through which they can state their intentions. This is presumably what Herr Eppler has tried to do.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What political views may a volunteer hold in the country where he is working - and in what form may he manifest them?

Von Weizsäcker: This question touches on the most tense aspect of development aid for the volunteer. He has gone there as a result of a treaty with the country in question - and he must stick to the conditions of this treaty. That is to say he must not get involved in internal political disputes. This is what the volunteers in northern Brazil did and this is why we took the action we did. There are situations in which people cannot give free rein to all the causes they believe in. But it is their human right to believe in those causes nonetheless.

Frankfurter Rundschau: Can the organiser - the Ministry or the Deutscher

Entwicklungsdienst - lay down rules to volunteers on the political attitudes they may or may not adopt?

Von Weizsäcker: I personally would not want to tell a volunteer what political views he may hold. I simply want to make it clear to volunteers that if they adopt certain political attitudes they will not be good development aid workers.

The only regulations I would make would be that the volunteers should pay due attention to the sensibilities of the host country, and use discretion at all times. Naturally while we are deeply concerned about the people and the social situation in the countries where we give aid we insist that it is not the duty of a development aid worker to espouse the politics of the Federal Republic. He is not a government emissary and I am opposed to this idea of his being a missionary coming to the fore. He is not a Bonn government ambassador, but simply a person whose wish to help others can be realised by the financing of the DED in behalf of the Bonn government.

Frankfurter Rundschau: So you believe that a development aid volunteer should not support the politics of liberation - fronts or revolutionary organisations - even if he has realised that more human rights can only be won for the inhabitants of the country where he is working by violent means?

Von Weizsäcker: I believe that there are many situations in which a volunteer can help the individuals in a country without becoming involved in the question of

Continued on page 11

GDR

Leipzig Fair is an opportunity for East Berlin to show willing

tearing down border barricades is one of the main aims of the Bonn government. Politically speaking the deep chasm between the two Germanies is far from being bridged, but from the point of view of trade policies we already have an open frontier, although this is not without its problems.

This year trade between the two German States is heading for the five-billion-Mark level. But from the point of view of trade policies the significance of this is variable. The figure amounts to about two per cent of our world trade, but at the same time it is about one tenth of the German Democratic Republic's total exports.

One constant factor that always had to be taken into account in trade between the two parts of this country was the differential between exports and imports. The GDR had and still has a great need for high quality industrial goods, but has too little foreign exchange to pay for them. The items they have for sale are

finely limited because of the requirements of Comecon partners and secondly by the fact that they are not too attractive to Western markets.

Thus the GDR got further and further into debt, while Pankow and Bonn euphemistically described the trade gap as "a cumulative balance-sheet plus for the Federal Republic".

For some months now, however, this tendency has come to a standstill. Companies across the border in the East are supplying this country with more goods and our sales in the GDR are increasing. The gap is not closing completely, but at least it is not being opened any wider. It has even been possible for the GDR to cut back its debts to around 1,200 million Marks.

This sum includes an interest-free loan of 440 million (swing), of which the GDR has been taking full advantage and which will be raised contractually to about 520 million Marks in 1972. The rest of the money is part of binding agreements between firms with varying dates of repayment.

For salesmen in West Germany there has been an unpleasant consequence of the hesitant balancing of Inter-German trade. They are no longer able to sell so much in East Germany since the orders

Continued from page 10

changing the political setup there. If people come to a different conclusion I consider it most likely that they have come off the rails. One should never overestimate what one is capable of achieving.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What way out would you suggest for development aid workers caught in a crisis of conscience?

Von Weizsäcker: As a member of the DED a volunteer cannot take part in violent activities. He must either quit the DED and remain in the country privately or he must remain with the DED and quit the country.

Frankfurter Rundschau: What do you say to the Opposition's charge that the DED has been infiltrated by leftists?

Von Weizsäcker: I deny it emphatically. I have read a number of statements to this effect, but all of them have been quite impetuous. But I am ready to talk to such critics at any time. However, they must have their evidence at the ready so that we can check it out. It is not sufficient to level verbal criticism. How can you deny a charge that has not been set down in writing?

Hans Lorchbacher

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 2 September 1971)



from East Berlin are not coming in at the hitherto frantic rate.

With the Leipzig Fair coming up there has been a slackening off of trade. Exports are stagnating.

Companies that have traded with the GDR have always needed men with thick skins as salesmen. The chain of concessions that have been made by this country is long. Interest-free loans, customs concessions and price adjustments - these have all been virtually a chink in the EEC armour. Quotas have been abolished, there have been a number of adjustment payments and there has been a constant liberalisation of trade with the GDR.

East Berlin's reaction has been to direct polemics against West Germany and at every Leipzig Fair exhibitors from this country - the main contingent at the fair after the GDR itself - have had to put up with discrimination against them.

Perhaps we can now hope that the talks between the two Germanies will lead to a better climate in future at Leipzig.

It must be conceded that the GDR is now more productive and as a trading

partner is able to export more than in the past. Added to this the country's ability to pay for imports, which was still described as weak in 1970, is now much stronger.

East Berlin could help towards a normalisation of trade by throwing some light on the shady steel deals. It is difficult to believe that the authorities in the GDR know nothing about how firms have channelled steel en masse from other East Bloc countries into the Inter-German trade network, taking advantage of the special preferences that cover inter-German trade and at the same time cashing in themselves.

Despite the balance of trade at present, which has hit this country's sales, the mountain of debts is still high and precludes any possibility of the actual trade levels between the two Germanies being completely evenly balanced.

The GDR lacks the flexibility to really get to grips with Western markets and in addition the country has to suffer the incompetence of its planners, a harsh winter and a shortage of supplies.

Moreover the Soviet Union as the head of the Comecon bloc has set the signals clearly to mark the way ahead - the communist world has unreserved trade precedence! This leaves little room for manoeuvre for the free world. In future, too, the package of trade

Managers must make do with bronze handshakes

diploma, do not earn much less than their colleagues with scientific training.

The higher graded managerial workers are given individual contracts and individual salaries. Even ten years ago some of the real alphas at the head of key industries were earning fabulous salaries. For instance Professor Nelles, the former managing director of Buna Werke enjoyed a salary of 10,000 Marks.

There was even talk of unlimited "free" accounts for some managing directors and scientists. But the days of the fabulous pay are no more.

The income pyramid in the GDR shows that the differences between higher and lower paid workers is not so great as in the Federal Republic. A GDR managing director earns less than ten times as much as the boy who carries the messagings in the firm. This gap between the top pay packets in the GDR and the average income is large, but not so great as in the Federal Republic. In 1970 the average was about 750 Marks, while a top manager could earn 3,000.

But the rewards for managers in the GDR are very slim when compared with those of their counterparts on this side of the border. Even those members of the staff who can look forward to a managerial position, that is to say those who have studied economics, law or technology, earn about 2,000 Marks a month, more than double the earnings of their colleagues of a similar age in the East.

The higher the position in the business hierarchy the greater the difference in the rewards between this country and the GDR. On average a man midway up the managerial scale in the Federal Republic earns about 45,000 Marks per year. A similar position in the GDR, however, would only be worth about 15,000 Marks annually.

preferences should have a stimulating effect. For grain alone the GDR gets about twice as much from sales to West Germany as it would at world market prices. Thus agricultural exports are an attractive proposition, and the short distance to be covered keeps transport costs down to a minimum. This applies particularly to West Berlin, and following the Four-Power agreement the divided city could become the hub of trade between the two Germanies the between the communist and free world.

What are the chances of increasing trade between the two Germanies in the next few years? Since there is scarcely any question of raising extra credit, firms in the Federal Republic that export to East Germany must be prepared to accept that their growth rate in this direction at least will slacken off.

This means growth rates of perhaps ten to fifteen per cent instead of the twenty to thirty per cent they have become accustomed to.

As for the GDR, its firms must broaden their outlook with more modern products, better service and more aggressive marketing.

As the climate of the Federal Republic economy continues to cool down this will prove increasingly difficult for our eastern neighbour. The structure of the trade between the two States does not correspond by any means to the level that should be expected between two highly industrialised nations.

The main concern is to keep trade free from the daily political ups and downs. Leipzig Fair will provide a good opportunity for the German Democratic Republic to prove that it wants reasonable growth rather than stagnation.

Peter Gillies

(Ole Welt, 1 September 1971)

When income tax and social security payments are taken into consideration the immediate swing is in favour of the GDR bosses. In their country the highest tax rate is twenty per cent, whereas it is fifty-one per cent in the Federal Republic. The highest contribution to social security in the GDR is sixty Marks per month. This is enough to guarantee extremely good treatment in the case of illness.

Some leading managers receive in addition an old-age pension at a relatively favourable rate from the State. This so-called intelligence pension is worked out on the basis of the salary at retirement. This in addition to the normal pension often amounts to more than three-quarters of income at retirement.

It is extremely difficult as well to compare the standard of living of the bosses in the two Germanies. Neither the official parity for the exchange of Ostmarks and Westmarks (1:1) nor the unofficial rate at West German banks (DM 1:3.5 Marks) is much help. The price structures in the two States are quite different and so currency parities, official or otherwise, are of little value.

The different tendencies, can, however, be shown by the comparison of various individual items. It is well known that basic needs can be satisfied relatively cheaply in the GDR. This applies to rents, electricity bills, transport, postage, basic foods, inland travel and most of the service industries.

Thanks to lower taxes and other payments the GDR bosses do, in fact, have a higher proportion of their income remaining for other needs. It must also be remembered that many GDR bosses also have working wives.

But despite this there remains little over from their earnings for real luxuries at the prices charged in the GDR and little spare for accumulation of capital. But in comparison with other workers in the GDR managerial classes have a much higher standard of living.

Frank Grütz

(Ole Welt, 3 September 1971)

■ TRADE

Video vistas dominate the 1971 Berlin radio show

This year's Berlin radio show, which began on 27 August, is more than a mere consumer gala. Now that the entertainment industry no longer exhibits at Hannover the Berlin show can truthfully be called a radio and TV trade fair. Buyers from all over the country flocked to Berlin to place orders for the new season. For the first time too the range of goods on exhibit is international. At long last manufacturers have overcome their fear of foreign competition and agreed to allow foreign and overseas firms to join in the fray. So this year's radio show can rightly claim to be something new, and as a fully-fledged international trade fair it will be an important touchstone of Berlin's pulling-power as a venue for events of this kind. For the first time since the war the exhibition grounds at the foot of West Berlin's radio tower are witnessing full-scale trade talks of a major industry. Neither previous radio shows nor the annual industrial exhibitions nor, for that matter, a number of smaller trade fairs held regularly since the Second World War have been as important as the 1971 Berlin radio show.

Developments in the audio-visual field can be compared with a three-stage rocket. The first stage, electronic video recording, was detonated some time ago. The second, video cassette recorders in colour, is at the countdown stage. There is still some time to go before the third stage, the video record in colour, is due to be activated.

To this extent the world premieres of audio-visual systems for educational and domestic use as celebrated at a number of stands at the Berlin radio show would seem to have been a little premature. They are more likely to be a practical proposition in the second half of the seventies.

"The audiovisual future," says Günther Hücking, director of the radio and TV section of the Electrical Engineering Manufacturers Association and the host at Berlin, "will be spectacular. The premieres hold forth the promise of a large market. But the performances are not yet in the repertoire."

The future was heralded by super-8 film. Technically speaking the progress from a super-8 projector to electronic film reproduction on the TV screen is not a great step.

Ullstein and a number of smaller firms are already involved in production. Ullstein alone already have some 45,000 cassettes in stock. Their proud claim is that "Everyone is talking about cassettes. We have them."

The film in stock is either bought or specially produced and aimed at today's limited but closely defined market of doctors, travel agents and education authorities.

Being in at the start holds forth both prospects and risks for hard and software. The danger is that audio-visual systems developed in laboratories all over the world will outstrip one another and that neither recording nor reproduction equipment will come up to scratch with the exception of the technical perfection already achieved by super-8.

The luck of the draw is that the considerable sums of money being ploughed into research and development by the various manufacturers will make their mark on an emerging market and spell success for one system or the other. This is why this year's Berlin radio show features video cassette systems that will one day dominate the market by providing material on record.

Reproduction equipment costs between

2,000 and 3,000 Marks and unplayed cassettes roughly 140 Marks. At this sort of price audio-visual equipment cannot be expected to sweep all before it but then none of the devices on exhibit will be on the market before next year or the year after.

Yet audio-visual equipment is unquestionably the shape of things to come. Interest has long since been shown by educational authorities and industrial concerns. They are no longer on their own.

Any number of private individuals asked for a demonstration of the various systems at the stands of Philips, Nordmende, Loewe-Opta, AEG-Telefunken and others. "I'll buy one of them when they are available" was the invariable reaction of the man in the street.

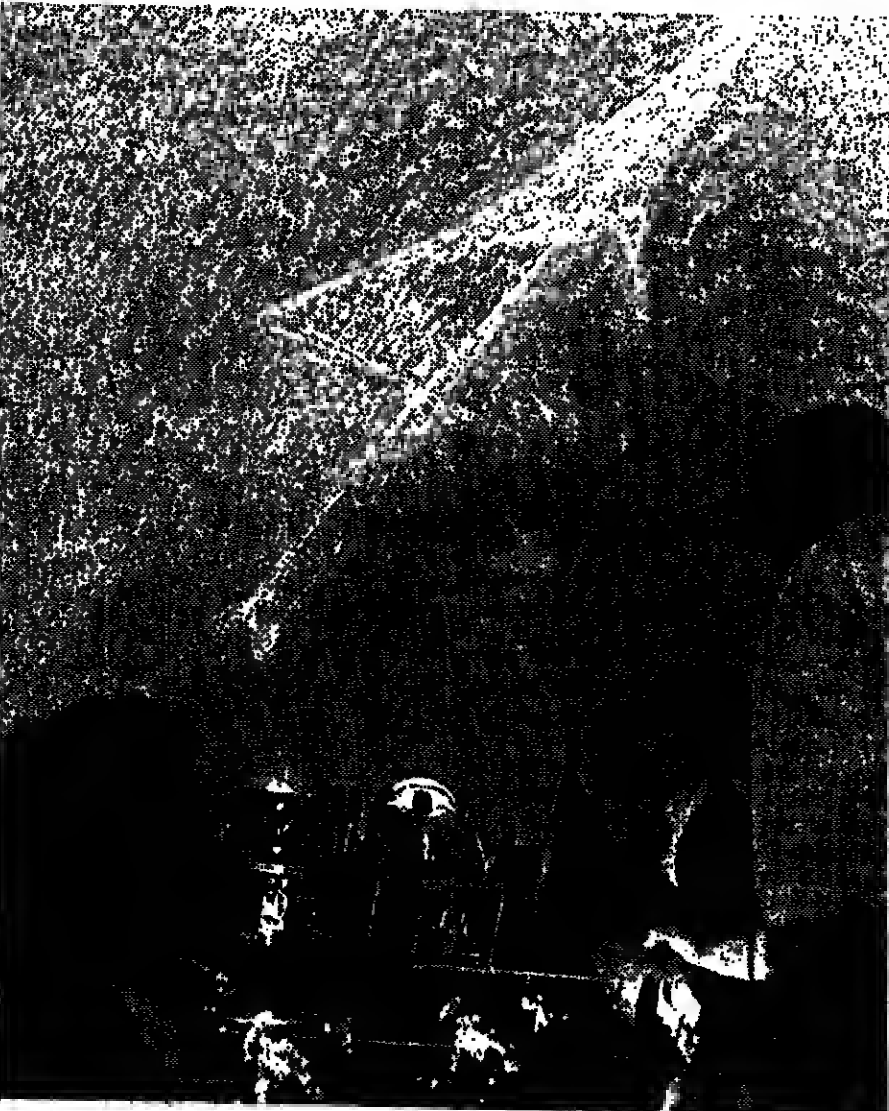
The squat video recorder is easy enough to operate. No TV adaptors are needed. Television programmes can be recorded and played back. Ready-made cassettes can be played back on the TV screen. The industry reckons with a potential market of half a million.

Colour video records, even though they will be some time in coming, will also be a money-spinner. They indeed will be the genuine mass-consumption article.

At between 600 Marks for black and white and 1,200 for colour the video record-players will be an expensive proposition but the records, in tough PVC, will be relatively inexpensive.

Recording will be inexpensive too, not differing too much from sound-recording. The expense will be copyright, store fees and production rights for, say, football games. They will be the main cost factor.

The video records will be flexible and in due time supplied as supplements to newspapers, magazines and educational courses. In runs of this kind they will cost next to nothing.



One of the innovations that stole the show at this year's Berlin radio and TV trade fair was the AEG-Telefunken colour video record developed jointly with Teldec. It was the first public showing of a mass-consumption article of the home too distant from the four Berlin inventors of the latest video system, Dr Gerhard Dickopp, Hans Redlich, Joschi Klemp and Eduard Schüller, are here seen admiring their product during playback on to the TV screen.

(Photo: AEG-Telefunken)

AEG-Telefunken make great play with their video-recording equipment at the radio show and there are plenty of visitors to stand and stare at video cassette recorders and super-8 films.

To all intents and purposes, though, this is more sensationalism, like the Siemens lasers that paint bright colours on the ceiling to musical accompaniment and are gazed at by hundreds of people as though they were the eighth wonder of the world.

The only genuine intention, and a not unimportant one at that, can have been to make potential customers' mouths water.

This year's Berlin radio show is a foretaste of the future. The direct-dial car telephones on exhibit, for instance, will not be available until 1975. The post office is proud of this latest achievement but has only just started to develop network facilities.

In time for the Olympics, a magic

deadline for the entire electronics industry, particularly the entertainment aide, the post office hopes to have teletransmitters for direct-dial car telephones in operation in the Munich area.

The first customers will then be able to derive some benefit from their expensive installations (costing roughly 10,000 Marks).

What is actually available at present is a little more limited in scope if not in perfection. Colour TV has now overcome initial teething trouble. Portable sets are available in every conceivable size and combination.

Transistorised cassette recorders and hi-fi have made their breakthrough into the market, which is more than can be said for quadraphony — there are too few programmes to make the prospect of quadraphony all that bright.

Japanese competition is particularly apparent in transistorisation and miniaturisation. The cut-price market for small TV sets has been virtually abandoned to Japanese manufacturers. Home producers cannot compete.

Domestic manufacturers are marketing technically more refined portables sets in larger sizes that promise to sell reasonably well.

Surprisingly enough Sony, the Japanese "forerunner of the audio-visual future," are not exhibiting video cassette recorders at Berlin. They have any number of waterproof and shockproof transistorised devices on display but have been pipped at the post as far as video is concerned.

Starting this September Sony will probably commence manufacturing video recorders under licence from Philips.

As regards the show business side the broadcasting authorities continue to dominate the radio show with any number of live studios large and small. But they are gradually losing interest in the Bamum & Bailey.

Director-General Schröder of Norddeutscher Rundfunk and Channel 1 of the national TV network comments that show business ought in future to be left to the manufacturers of cassettes. "We ought to limit ourselves to what can be transmitted live from the exhibition."

Fritz Hügel

(Die Welt, 30 August 1971)

Siemens unveiled at the Berlin radio show a stage laser projecting colour patterns to music. These fascinating light effects are expected to lead to new developments in film and TV. The stage laser was premiered at last year's opera festival in Munich's Nationaltheater. Musical modulation is the latest development of this new device in stagecraft.

(Photo: Siemens)

■ TRANSPORT

Felix Wankel of rotary-engine fame unveils his ocean-going motor car

Holidaymakers looked on astonished as a remote-controlled miniature boat circled round Lake Constance. Zisch 69 B negotiated calm waters on glider fins similar to those of a hydrofoil and ploughed through heavier water like a submarine. Despite high speed it did not appear to be much put out by swell or current.

Zisch 69 B is not a toy but a miniature version of what the inventor visualises as a private car of the ocean waves, an purpose vehicle unsinkable in the heaviest of weather.

The inventor is Dr Felix Wankel, the self-taught engineer whose rotary engine has made engineering history.

Wankel hopes his boat will be an equally good-making development. The scale models have already successfully been put through their paces and two full-size prototypes at present under construction in Switzerland will be ready to undergo trials next spring.

Wankel's boat is the result of development work dating back to a contract he undertook for the Reich Aviation Ministry several years before the War.

Not until 1962 was Felix Wankel able to resume work on the project at the technical research and development centre at Lindau on Lake Constance that he now heads.

The Zisch first reminds one of Flipper, the TV dolphin, and is hard to attribute to any particular sector of conventional shipbuilding. In conventional shipbuilding only specific types of vessel have managed to fulfil specific requirements.

Ocean-going vessels are expected to be large and weighty. Smaller, faster ships have generally been designed for coastal and inland traffic. Wankel proposes to combine the two.

In order to provide private transport on the high seas he needs a design that bears comparison with the motor-car in terms

of size, price, speed and interior. Zisch is Wankel's solution: small, ocean-going, swift and inexpensive.

The present scale model conveys some idea of what he has in mind. Zisch 69 B is powered by a normal screw and at rest or low speeds has its keel submerged. As soon as it develops speed the keel surfaces and the vessel skims the surface on its fins.

At speedboat tempo it can travel hundreds or thousands of kilometres in this fashion. Zisch cannot surmount large waves so the cabin is covered and it ploughs through the breakers in submarine fashion.

The entire design is modelled on the dolphin. "Like Men: the dolphin is a mammal and needs fresh air to breathe. Yet even in heavy seas it gets the air it needs because its body is so streamlined that it can plough straight on whether above water, partially or totally submerged."

Felix Wankel's mechanical dolphin is claimed to have similar properties. The full-sized version will accommodate four to six passengers.

Wankel is not the man to encourage a line and cry about his development work and his seagoing passenger vehicle has so far largely escaped public notice. Having once been blessed by success he is now in a position to carry on with his latest "utopian" project under his own steam.

He is financing the project largely out of his own pocket.

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DIE WELT is published daily in Berlin, Hamburg and (for the Rhine-Ruhr industrial area) in Essen. From Monday to Friday the circulation is 280,000 rising to 315,000 on Saturdays. Regular subscriptions account for 78% of net sales; the remainder are sold through normal trade channels. DIE WELT is available in over 8,000 districts of West Germany, including West Berlin. Overseas sales in 120 countries account for five per cent of total circulation.

DIE WELT'S editorial content has won for it acclaim all over the world as an authoritative voice of West Germany. Its circulation and readership indicate the paper's influence. The only West German newspaper mentioned in a recent series of articles on sixteen leading world newspapers in The Times, London, was DIE WELT. In 1967 DIE WELT was awarded a medal of honour for outstanding journalistic achievement by the Faculty of Journalism at the University of Columbia (Mo.).

wholly new ideas and creative talent is absolutely essential.

Computers and many scientists have lost this facility. "You can know too much," Felix Wankel comments.

The "crotchety" inventor of Lake Constance is self-confident and independent enough to uphold the freedom of his utopian developments. He is sad that there are so few inventors of his calibre left.

Explorers and inventors are no longer heroic figures. The concepts of research and invention have been continually debased over the years, Wankel feels.

"One of these days things will have come to such a pass that an auto mechanic on the lookout for an ignition fault will consider himself to be a researcher," he drily notes.

Detlef Boldt
(Deutsches Allgemeines
Sonntagsblatt, 5 September 1971)

Plain bad driving causes many car crashes

Bad driving is a more frequent cause of traffic accidents than is generally assumed, the Bavarian branch of the TÜV, the independent agency responsible for conducting compulsory two-year roadworthiness tests on motor vehicles, maintains.

This conclusion is reached on the basis of a survey of 1,025 motorists conducted by doctors, psychologists and driving instructors. 36% of the sample proved to be either bad drivers or in poor health.

A check was made to determine how many of this group have prior offences on record at the Motor Vehicle Registration Office in Flensburg, where the central archives of licence endorsements are located.

Ninety-nine motorists were found to have poor eyesight. Seventeen of them had previous traffic convictions on record. Twenty per cent of the 161

motorists who proved to be either bad drivers or unaware of important provisions of the highway code were also booked as previous offenders.

Of the 58 motorists who combined both poor eyesight with other physical or mental shortcomings 73 per cent were on record in Flensburg as having previous offences to be taken into consideration when they next come before the courts.

Only three per cent of the 658 motorists who were found to have no notable shortcomings had endorsements registered in Flensburg.

Last year 1,776,049 people in this country applied for a driving licence. 101,235, or 5.7 per cent of them, failed the sight test. In 888 cases the optician's report was so bad that it was felt they would never be able to pass the driving test. (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 August 1971)

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HOLIDAYS

Allgäu mountains have more to offer than romantic castles and scenery

Ask any American planning a tour of Europe what he is most looking forward to and he is almost bound to say Neuschwanstein Castle, Bavaria. Foreign visitors generally think in terms of a romantic, medieval past in the East of the Allgäu region of Southern Germany where the Romantische Strasse tourist route ends.

What other explanation is there for the unquestionable fact that Neuschwanstein, King Ludwig II of Bavaria's nineteenth-century vision of a new Wartburg (the medieval castle in the Harz mountains where troubadours and knights of chivalry really met), is visited by 500,000 tourists a year?

Smile on may at the pseudo-Romanticism of King Ludwig, the patron and admirer of Richard Wagner, but there can be no denying that his costly castles are now money-spinners.

You may not be too keen on Wagner and the mystique of the Holy Grail but you still should not miss the castle concerts held from 14 to 19 September in the Wartburg Hall at Neuschwanstein.

The music played is well worth listening to. There are the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, the Munich Nonetti and the Lausle Quartet and an assortment of well-known soloists.

The Allgäu may owe much of its tourist reputation to the regal dreamer who invited inordinate sums of money in the two castles of Hohenschwangau and Neuschwanstein but even without them it is an attractive part of the world.

The area between Trauchgau to the East and Nesselwang and Wertach in the West is one of the best-known and most popular holiday areas in the South. Not for nothing are the approaches to the Alps called a natural work of art.

"All we lack is the sea," one spa publicity manager comments, adding that "of course the many lakes between rolling hills with the gigantic mountain range between Zugspitze and Nebelhorn in the distance do make the area attractive, though."

Right he is and there is no shortage of water in the Allgäu. Fongensee is five miles long and visitors can indulge in all kinds of water sport until well on into the autumn, and when it is too cold outdoors there are any number of indoor baths to choose from.

Water-lovers who would like to do something for their health could do worse than visit Fongensee for a Kneipp course or, for that matter, go in for the full spa treatment at Hopfen and its newly-built spa centre nearby.

East Allgäu has some 190 hotels and 98 pensions at the ready to welcome visitors. And there are any number of private guesthouses. Holidays on the farm are also growing in popularity.

More than 1,700,000 bednights last year prove that holidays in the East Allgäu have gained a reputation for themselves. "We have so much to offer," one burgomaster says, "that we can satisfy the holiday needs of visitors of all ages and interests."

The Allgäu, in common with other areas, is benefiting from the trend to take two holidays in the course of the year and an increasing number of visitors are coming for short spells in the autumn to see for themselves whether this is where they would like to spend their winter holidays.

It is a moot question whether the

The largest wine vat in the world, one of the sights of Bad Dürkheim
(Photo: Südt. Verkehrsamt Bad Dürkheim)

autumn or the winter is better in the Allgäu. Prospective holidaymakers who would like to see for themselves should write for brochures to *Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Förderung des Fremdenverkehrs Ostallgäu* at Landratsamt Füssen.

Visitors travelling by car from the East will see for themselves the beauty of the Allgäu foothills as they drive along the Deutsche Alpenstrasse route. In the distance they will see the town of Füssen, surrounded by glorious mountain scenery itself but towering over the river Lech.

Bad Faulenbach, a mineral and mud spa on the way, is reputed to be good for rheumatism and gynaecological troubles. Here too advocates of Father Kneipp and his watering-can treatment will find all they need. What is more, they can take the Tegellbergbahn and survey the entire region from a height of 1,720 metres (5,650 feet).

Then there is Pfongau, a village neatly divided into thirteen sections. The Breitenberg mountain railway takes the holidaymaker to an elevation of 1,500 metres (4,900 feet). A chair lift then goes up to a height of 1,720 metres.

Climbers can negotiate the 1,987-metre (6,520-ft) Aggenstein. From the summit they can see Tannheimer Tal in Austria and make out the deep turquoise of Vilsalpsee lake.

Or they can climb unaided (and without much difficulty) to the top of Falkenstein (1,268 metres or 4,155 feet) and take a look at the highest ruined

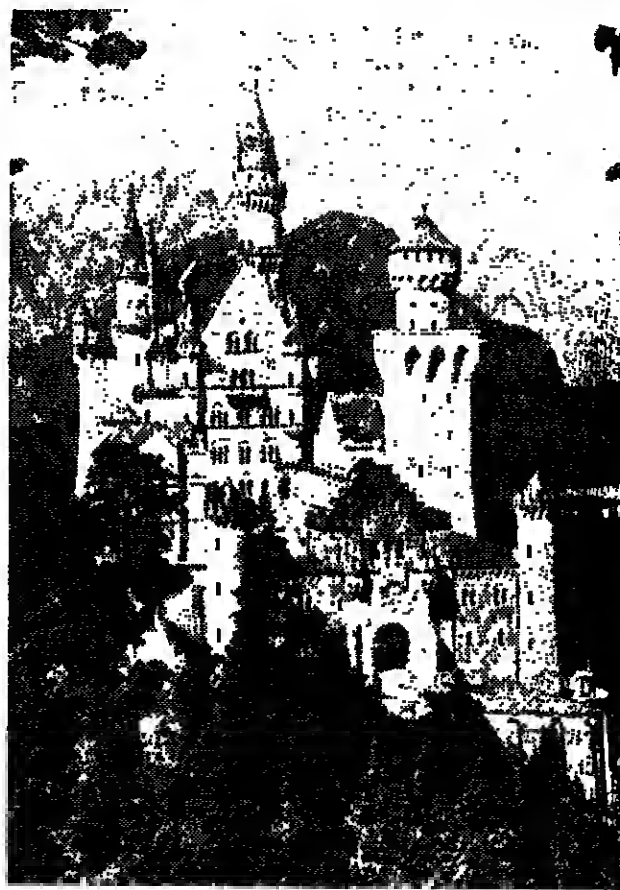
castle in Germany. The falconers will show them every bird of prey still found wild in Europe.

The road from Pfongau to Hindelang passes through Austrian territory but is only negotiable in summer. Otherwise you have to make a detour via Wertach, or will have to do so until the missing section of the Deutsche Alpenstrasse between Unterjoch and Oberjoch is completed.

Hindelang, spa, Kneipp centre and sulphurous mud treatment centre, is another jewel of the Allgäu region. The village itself is at an altitude of 850 metres (2,790 feet) and the mountain railway takes visitors up to the 1,420-metre (4,640-ft) Hornalp.

From Oberjoch, which is reached via an easily negotiable but seemingly endless succession of hairpin bends, the visitor has a gorgeous view of the valley.

People who like mountain air can



Neuschwanstein Castle, Bavaria

(Photo: AP)

choose holiday hotels at altitudes of up to 1,150 metres (3,780 feet). Down to Hindelang there are further spa and Kneipp centres, a Kurpark and heated indoor baths.

Back on the Alpenstrasse the road falls southwards and up the Illertal towards Oerterdorf. Unless, of course, you would like to stay a while in Sonthofen, which is well worth its sports centre and variety of spa treatments.

Oerterdorf, which is not for nothing a bednight millionaire, needs little further recommendation. It has peace and quiet to offer for older people and plenty of entertainment for youngsters.

Anyone can take the Nebelhornbahn suspension railway up to a height of 2,215 metres (7,282 feet) and the Söllereck chair lift crosses over to Kleinwalsertal (1,400 metres or 4,600 feet).

From here the Kanzelwandbahn to Riezelm and the Walmendingerhornbahn in Mittelberg send their way up to altitudes of 2,000 metres (6,560 feet) and upwards.

Heuberg chair lift in Hirschegg and Zafema chair lift in Mittelberg are further mountain railways available to the visitors up to elevations of 1,400 metres (4,600 feet).

On the road from Sonthofen to Oberdorf there is Fischern, a small spa 10 kilometres before Oberdorf, and the nearby Hörnerbahn in Bolsterlang send to take visitors up to 1,420 metres (4,660 feet) and the Homgratlift, which is used as a chair lift in the summer and takes holidaymakers up to an elevation of 1,550 metres (5,100 feet).

The Western fork of the Alpenstrasse passes through Immenstadt, with its mountain railway to Mittag, 1,000 metres, Bühl on the Alpsee and its double chair lift going up to 1,350 metres (4,430 feet) and the well-known Allgäu railway of Oberstaufen, Steibis, Weller, Lindenberg and Scheldegg and down to Lindenberg on Lake Constance.

Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, also serve the Allgäu region well. Oberstaufen and Immenstadt are on the main line between Lindau and Munich. Sonthofen and Oberdorf are on the Nesselwang, Pfongau and Füssen are on the main north-south lines from Augsburg and Ulm.

Jutta Rudershausen
(Deutsche Zeitung, 27 August 1971)

SPORT

Power-assisted gliders gain ascendancy in the air

The Travels of Count Zambecari was a Lanchester children's book in the 1920s. In it a stork explains to a wren he taken on as a hitch-hiker, so to speak, the secret of gliding without moving your wings.

This story so intrigued schoolboy Otto von Lilienthal and his brother that they decided to keep an eye on storks and watch how they flew.

Otto von Lilienthal's lifelong ambition was to construct a powered aeroplane. When he crashed and died in the Rhinow hills, not far from Berlin, in 1896 he had not yet achieved this ambition but he had perfected a glider that lacked nothing but a few minor improvements to the steering.

Lilienthal's ideas were overtaken by the publicity given to motor-powered aviation and virtually consigned to oblivion until Frankfurt civil engineer Oskar Ursinus noticed buzzards gliding in the Rhön region, an isolated plateau in Franconia. Without appearing to move their wings at all the buzzards climbed to ever greater heights.

In 1920 Ursinus launched the first Rhön competition and it was an immediate success. Germany was prohibited by the terms of the Versailles Treaty from developing motor aeroplanes but not from developing the art of gliding. The men who drafted the Treaty of Versailles had never heard of gliders.

Gliding has gone from strength in this country ever since. Some 23,000 people are affiliated to the gliding section of the Federal Republic Aero Club and pay club subscriptions of between six and twenty Marks a month to sit motionlessly through the heavens, outwitting the force of gravity and viewing the panorama of the world below.

There are about 3,400 gliders in this country. Six hundred are privately owned, the remainder belong to the various clubs. They have at their disposal a fabulous chunk of the country's increasingly crowded airspace.

There are a number of reasons why there seems to be less and less airspace available. There are more and more private powered aircraft (about three thousand at the moment) and safety regulations are continually being stiffened.

The main inroads into airspace are made, however, by bans imposed in the vicinity of civil airports and military airfields. More and more country is being declared off of bounds for glider pilots.

The hardest part of gliding is preparing for take-off and heading back to home base once the glider has landed, though. The pioneering days are over and it is only when veterans get together that they reminisce about the days when it took a couple of dozen men to get the club glider airborne.

In those days paper, wood and wire was the stuff dreams are made of and many a hopeful glider pilot had to wait for days before take-off because there was no wind when his turn came round.

Yet even now it takes four or five men

to get gliders airborne at most clubs. One man must operate the winch, one must man the intercom, one must be at the aircraft and at least another must keep the wings horizontal.

At least the same number are needed when the glider is taken into tow and "if only for courtesy's sake you have to be there either to prepare the glider or to dismantle it," an enthusiastic glider man adds rather less than enthusiastically.

"Young people in particular are no longer so keen on the preliminaries," Walther Cartaus, glider secretary of the Federal Republic Aero Club in Frankfurt, says.

This is why he foresees a great future for a craft that has existed for many a long year but has only become a really viable proposition this year — the power-assisted glider.

Gliding veterans will have no truck with the power-assisted glider. "It tolls the death knell of the adventure of the weather and the clouds, the element of risk that makes gliding so thrilling," one glider pilot who takes his annual holiday regularly in the Rhön region noted.

He may be right but there can be no denying that power assistance makes gliding simpler and more rational.

In good weather the pilot of a power-assisted glider can take off under his own steam without further assistance. He can fly and stay aloft in conditions that are too poor for conventional gliders.

Because take-off procedure is far less tiresome gliding with power assistance is a feasible proposition after work during the week.

What is more, the charge per hour of power-assisted flight (thirty Marks or so) makes it possible for the glider to pay for itself faster.

The International Aviation Federation has now gone so far as to make power-assisted flight respectable by introducing a power-assisted category alongside the standard and open categories. Power-assisted gliding can now lay official claim to be a sporting pursuit.

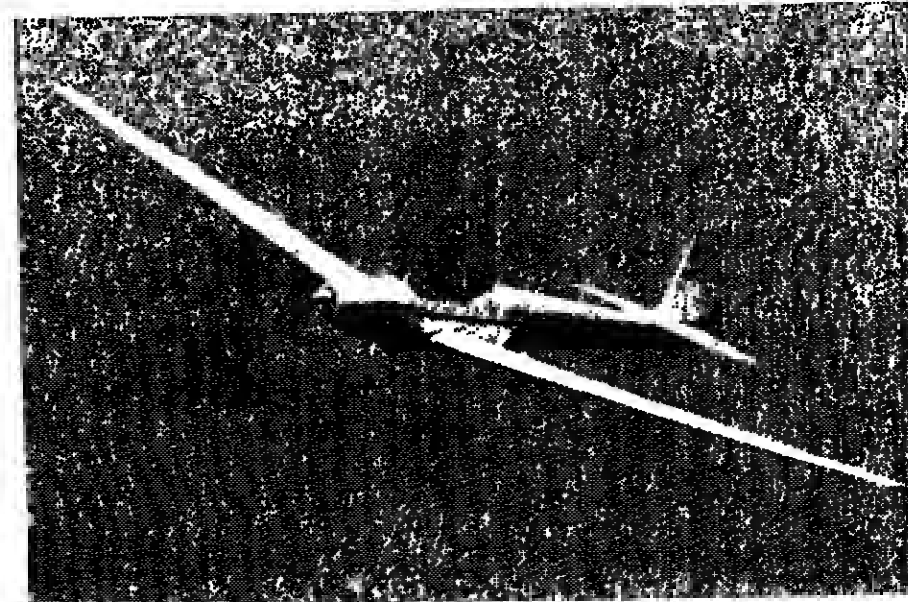
Continued from page 14

vintner's tents, is just about the most boring duty in the year.

The only diversions are the recumbent bodies found asleep on the pavement at three in the morning. Because they make easy meat for passing motorists the police ease them into the nearest doorway and let them sleep it off until eight in the morning when they head off to the nearest wine cellar to clear their heads anyway.

The stands at which snacks are sold are called Schubkarlstände, a word that indicates their origin. In days gone by the vintners used to wheel their vats to market in wheelbarrows, upturn the wheelbarrows and sell their wares.

In the background the fairground glitters and the brass band plays local music.



Synthetic materials and tubular steel have replaced plywood and wire as the basis of high-performance gliders
(Photo: Schleicher)

Evaluation of flights is, of course, rendered more complicated by the fact that power-assisted flight time must be subtracted from the total. So the pilot must do his best to manage without the engine as far as possible. Ideally he should use it merely to gain initial height.

Artful pilots have discovered, however, that they can gain altitude very fast and with next to no resort to the engine, at least as far as the time factor is concerned, once they have found a thermal.

At all events the length of time the engine is run is recorded by a device attached to the barograph.

A number of aircraft manufacturers have started development work on power-assisted gliders and the engines to go with them. Schleicher of Dachau, for instance, have had to have their two-seater Falke manufactured under licence in this country and abroad because the firm's town-centre works cannot be enlarged.

Two hundred Falcons (for that is what the German name means) have already been built. At present the Falke costs 35,000 Marks.

In conjunction with Sehmpp-Hirth, the manufacturers of a total so far of 110 Cirrus high-performance gliders (costing 26,000 Marks with a waiting-list of seven to eight months), work is in progress on a further improvement in power-assisted gliding.

The first recorded mention of the Wurstmärkt is in 1417, when Dürkheim vintners sold sausage and wine to pilgrims at Michaelmas. Thirty years later the Wurstmärkt had gained such popularity that it moved to its present site.

Last year 220,000 litres of wine were drunk by half a million visitors.

A commission is busy tasting last year's vintage and selecting the vats that vintners are to sell at the Wurstmärkt. The commission also decides the price to be charged for a glass of wine.

Anyone who succeeds in drinking his way through the three dozen vintners' four different qualities of wine and the fifteen Wurstmärkt wines on sale in the large marquees during the week's festivities will have sampled every quality of wine from the ordinary to the very best.

Helmut Weller

(Kölnar Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 September 1971)

A tubular steel fuselage with a retractable engine is to be fitted with Cirrus wings with an eighteen-metre span.

Schleicher of Pöppelhausen have sold sixty ASK 14 one-seater power-assisted gliders costing 28,700 Marks. This summer the ASK 16, a two-seater version, has undergone flight tests and is due to go into production at the end of the year. Schleicher have great hopes of this, their latest model.

The ASK 16 will cost approximately 40,900 Marks. Schleicher, employing 150 men, are to build an initial four a month. Forty-eight orders have already been placed.

These are but a handful of examples of the boom in power-assisted gliders. The two-seaters are ideal trainers, the single-seaters ideal pre-competition aircraft even for pilots who intend to progress to the "real thing" — unaided flight.

In the long run a glider's licence is going to prove a less expensive business. At present some 1,500 learners take licences every year.

The boom in power-assisted gliders does not by any manner of means coincide with a decline in interest in conventional gliders. In recent years a revolution in the materials used has boosted interest to an enormous extent.

Synthetics have made many an airstrip toolkit so much old iron. The Ka 6, a standard conventional wooden-frame glider for many years, was very much an also-ran at the national gliding championships in Bückeburg last May.

The sole Ka 6 entered for the championships came in forty-second and last.

The championship winner was 29-year-old Esslingen biology teacher Helmut Reichmann flying an LS 1 high-performance synthetic model. He flew the same model to win the world championships last year in Merfa, Texas.

The LS 1 has a fifteen-metre wingspan and a top speed of 220 kilometres an hour (137 mph). It currently costs 22,200 Marks. The manufacturers, Schneider of Egelsbach, are running two to three a month off the assembly lines.

Since Reichmann won the world championships in Texas Schneider have been overwhelmed with orders. It will take them ten years to manufacture the 350 LS 1s on the order books.

Günter Schlichting

(Welt am Sonntag, 22 August 1971)

BA \$ 0.65	Colombia col. \$ 1.00	Formosa NT \$ 2.00	Indonesia Rp. 15.00	Malawi M. \$ 0.40	Paraguay G. 15.00	Sudan PT 5.00
AI 10	Congo (Brazzaville) C.F.A. 30.00	France FF 0.50	Iran Rial 10.00	Malaysia M. \$ 0.40	Peru P. 5.00	Syria S. 5.00
DA 0.50	Congo (Kinshasa) C.F.A. 30.00	Germany DM 1.00	Ireland P. 10.00	Mali M. \$ 0.40	Philippines P. 10.00	Tanzania T. 5.00
Exc. 1.00	Costa Rica C. 0.55	Ghana G. 0.50	Israel Lira 1.00	Mexico M. \$ 0.40	Poland Zl. 0.50	Thailand B. 2.00
\$ m 2.45	Cuba C. 0.55	Greece Gr. 1.00	Italy Lira 1.00	Morocco M. \$ 0.40	Portugal Esc. 1.00	Trinidad and Tobago B.W.I. \$ 0.20
10 c.	Cyprus P. 1.00	Guatemala Q. 0.15	Jamaica J. 0.50	Nicaragua C. 0.50	Rwanda F. Rw. 12.00	Togo F.C.F.A. 30.00
5 c.	Czechoslovakia Kcs 0.50	Honduras H. 0.50	Japan Yen 50.00	Saudi Arabia R. 0.50	Roanda F. Rw. 12.00	Turkey T. 5.00
\$ 0.15	Dominican Rep. R. 0.50	Hong Kong HK \$ 0.70	Kenya K. 0.50	Senegal C. 0.50	Swaziland R. 0.50	Tunisia T. 5.00
N. Cr. \$ 0.35	Ecuador E. 0.50	India Ru. 0.50	Laos L. 0.50	Sierra Leone S. 0.50	Sweden S. 0.50	Uganda U. 5.00
Ley 0.05	El Salvador S. 0.50	Libya L. 0.50	Lebanon L. 0.50	Switzerland F. S. 0.50	Switzerland F. S. 0.50	U.R. 5.00
\$ 0.50	Ethiopia Eth. 0.50	Luxembourg Fr. 1.00	Libya L. 0.50	USA \$ 0.50	USA \$ 0.50	U.S.A. \$ 0.50
\$ 0.50	Finland Fmk 0.50	Madagascar M. 0.50	Madagascar M. 0.50	Venezuela B. 0.50	Venezuela B. 0.50	Venezuela B. 0.50
\$ 0.50				Yugoslavia D. 0.50	Yugoslavia D. 0.50	Yugoslavia D. 0.50
\$ 0.50				Zambia Z. 0.50	Zambia Z. 0.50	Zambia Z. 0.50